

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Caridi on July 13, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. Claim 30 is cancelled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The closest cited prior art of record, US 2,454,515 and/or US 6,833,166, fail to fairly teach or suggest, even in view of each other, US 2002/0186469, US 4,268,127 and US 3,281,344, a polarizer in which fine metallic particles are dispersed in a matrix, where the matrix is either a uniaxially stretched polymer matrix, or a liquid crystalline one, wherein a domain is formed with the fine metallic particles having an average particle diameter of 100 nm or less and an aspect ratio of less than 1.5, and wherein if an azimuth of an incident polarization plane is altered relative to the polarizer, the absorption peak wavelength shifts in accordance with an alteration in the azimuth, in which case, if an azimuth of the incident polarization plane is 0 degree when an absorption peak wavelength of an absorption spectrum that is measured is the longest wavelength, defined as λ_1 , and if an azimuth of the incident polarization plane is gradually increased from 0 degree, a value of the absorption peak wavelength shifts to the short wavelength side in accordance with the increase in the azimuth, such that when an azimuth of the incident polarization plane is 90 degrees, a value of the absorption peak wavelength that is the shortest wavelength, defined as λ_2 , satisfies a relation of $10 \text{ nm} \leq (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) \leq 50 \text{ nm}$.

None of the references teaches the relation. In addition, Applicant demonstrates unexpected results in the specification (Example 1, Fig. 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number is (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample, can be reached on (571)272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sophie Hon/
Examiner, Art Unit 1794

/David R. Sample/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794